

Name (first and last)	Address of residence or property owned	Meeting date	Agenda Item (Property address or description of agenda item)	Position on Agenda Item (as applicable)	How would you like to make your public comment?	If you are providing a written comment, please leave here:	Are you representing yourself as an individual or speaking on behalf of a group?	Please name the group of people for whom you are the designated speaker.
Sarah Petersen	2401 Hastings Av	4/16/2025	Comprehensive	In favor	In person		Self	
Susan Gilkey	205 Main St	4/16/0025	Duplexes	In favor	Written comment	I urge support for building duplexes in Evanston. As a widow and 2 flat owner the duplex model has afforded me much flexibility. I couldn't not have managed a single family home by myself. Nor could I lived with my aging mother together in an apartment or condo. A duplex(2 flat) allowed me to be close by and easily available to her but still maintain my separate life. I also had a chance to have a garden and yard. In addition to adding architectural and social variety to a neighborhood duplexes provide families with a broader range of housing options Please say yes to duplexes !		
Andrew Pierson	2728 Lincolnwood	4/16/2025	Land Use Comm	In favor	Written comment	I write as both an Evanston resident and as a real estate developer who, for the past 16 years, has been building affordable housing in Rhode Island (remotely since 2021). Despite working on housing 1,000 miles from Evanston, many of the zoning issues I see are strikingly similar. Unfortunately, I spend much of my time trying to overcome barriers created by zoning ordinances. This is despite building housing that has widespread community and political support, consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and despite working for an organization with a strong track record of quality work. In project after project zoning restrictions (density, dimensional, etc) lead to added expenses, fewer units and lengthy delays. Zoning hearings, which are tame in Rhode Island compared to Evanston, require a team of legal and design experts (who charge by the hour) and weeks of prep. We often offset potential pushback by proposing fewer units and adding more parking than is needed or wanted. Better than a denial. This all drives costs up and results in less housing. Over years and decades, this results in hundreds fewer units across a community. When our developments are completed, elected officials, funders and neighbors frequently compliment our work and congratulate each other on the end result. I I have to remind them that what we build (ranging from single families to small apartment buildings) is NOT allowed by the zoning code! And it cost more and took longer because of zoning. Back in Evanston, I recently found out that based on our zoning codes even my single family home could not be built today on the comfortable lot on which it sits. Nor could most of my neighbors' homes. The type of neighborhood many of us want to protect and promote could not even be built under our current zoning. While no zoning code will make Evanston affordable overnight, restrictive zoning clearly adds significant cost. The relative affordability of housing in the 50s through 90s was a result of decades and decades of construction starting after WWII. Construction that was allowed by right and without years of costly zoning delays. Yet, the stagnation of construction over the past few decades has stifled supply while demand has skyrocketed. While there is no magic bullet to housing affordability, my experience says that zoning reform is an essential part of that equation. I love living in Evanston and sincerely hope my children will want to live here someday. But how will they ever afford to buy their first house without a career in investment banking? If we make reasonable changes to the zoning code, new housing will face fewer hurdles allowing for lower costs and more units. While it will take years, these changes can and will help to make housing more affordable in Evanston.		
Julia Forgash	1580 Sherman A	4/16/2025	LUC appointment	Opposed	Written comment	This comment is to urge the LUC to resist the pending appointment of Cat Velma to the LUC. If the current city council meets again, for any reason, that is against the law. According to the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-15, newly elected city council members MUST start their term at the next meeting following the final delivery of election results. The next city council meeting belongs to the NEW council members. If the existing council meets on April 28 or any other date, and they confirm Cat Velma, or conduct any other business, that is illegal and not binding. If this happens, please REJECT the appointment of Cat Velma.		
Sara Friedman	3046 Hartzell St	4/16/2025	EE45	In favor	Written comment	I am writing again to express my support for moving forward with EE45 and I encourage maintaining clear references to racial equity intact as reflections of the city's values and as away to further institutionalize racial equity as a city priority moving into the future. I would have included a post-the-April-4th-deadline scanned document with notes throughout, but I really don't have notes for improvement: I have reviewed the document and I support it. Thanks to the commission for your efforts throughout this process. I appreciate the work you are doing for this community!		